

Affidavit Under 37 CFR 1.132

Docket No.: RUANA-001



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 3671

Examiner: Mayo, Tara L.

Serial No. 09/874,940

Filed: June 4, 2001

In Re Application of: Bruce M. Ruana

For: RELEASABLY ATTACHABLE GRIP

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450 on 2/13/06. Signed [Signature]

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I, Wendy Simons, am a partner and Administrator of Park Place Residential Neighborhood for Seniors, a resident community for assisted living in Reno, Nevada. I have held this position since 1992, and have been an active administrator for assisted living and residential care facilities since 1972.

As an administrator, I have been involved in maintaining the safety of these facilities. Hand-railing plays an important role in safety of these facilities, as the elderly often need additional support, such as when they are standing and walking.

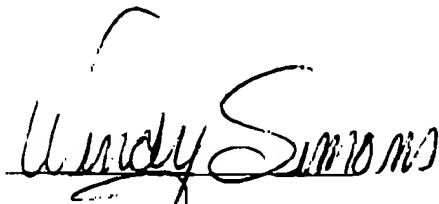
However, hand-railing can be difficult to hold. This is especially true when the hand-railing is wet, such as when someone is exiting the shower. Ever since I first became an administrator in 1972, I have been looking for a way to provide a secure and comfortable grip on hand-railing. However, previous attempts by others at providing a solution, such as texturing the surface of the hand-railing itself, have proven unsuccessful. These previous attempts have not solved the problem of providing a grip on hand-railing that is both secure and comfortable.

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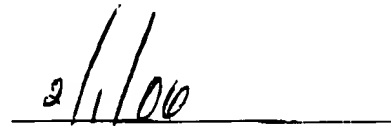
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Applicant's invention is the only product I have found that satisfies this long-felt need in the field. Applicant's product provides a grip having a skin layer that is to be axially wrapped around the outer surface of hand railing so that its edges do not overlap. The skin layer has a top surface that is continuous and flat, and the grip is adhered to the hand railing by a releasable adhesive that makes it easy to apply and replace.

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing therefrom.



Wendy Simmons
Partner/Administrator
Park Place Residential Neighborhood for Seniors



Date